

## ABSTRACT

### Include Figure 1

5 A method and corresponding apparatus, programs, and signals for maximising  
the use of trunks between telecommunications network nodes (for example  
Private Branch Exchanges (PBX's)) whilst avoiding looping during call set-up  
phase. Looping avoidance is achieved by including in the call set-up request  
messages a trail log comprising indications of those nodes through which the call  
set-up message has already passed. Each node in the network can then forward  
10 the call set-up sequence for a new voice call dependent both on the local routing  
tables stored in each routing node and the list of previously passed nodes  
contained in the call set-up message, and in particular avoiding routing a  
received call set-up message back to a node indicated in the trail log of that set-  
up message.